

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 222

Expressing the support of the House of Representatives for the Good Friday Agreement, signed on April 10, 1998, as a blueprint for a lasting peace in Northern Ireland, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 7, 2007

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York (for herself, Mr. WALSH of New York, Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. GALLEGLY, Mr. MCHUGH, Mrs. MALONEY of New York, Mr. DOYLE, Mr. HIGGINS, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. MEEKS of New York, Mr. TANNER, Mr. HINOJOSA, Mr. SIRES, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Ms. WATSON, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. LANTOS, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. DELAHUNT, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. CARNAHAN, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. WU, Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California, Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota, and Mr. WEXLER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

RESOLUTION

Expressing the support of the House of Representatives for the Good Friday Agreement, signed on April 10, 1998, as a blueprint for a lasting peace in Northern Ireland, and for other purposes.

Whereas the Good Friday Agreement, signed on April 10, 1998, sets out a plan for the creation of the Northern Ireland Assembly, and a devolved government in Northern Ireland on a stable and inclusive basis;

Whereas the Northern Ireland Assembly and Executive have been suspended since 2002;

Whereas the St. Andrews Agreement of October 2006 established a timetable for the restoration of a power-sharing government in Northern Ireland;

Whereas the St. Andrews Agreement required that “support for policing and the rule of law should be extended to every part of the community”;

Whereas on January 28, 2007, Sinn Féin held a party conference during which it declared its support for the Police Service of Northern Ireland and the criminal justice system, consistent with the terms of the St. Andrews Agreement;

Whereas British Prime Minister Tony Blair and Irish Taoiseach Bertie Ahern stated on January 30, 2007, that “We remain fixed in our determination to see shared government returned to the people of Northern Ireland.”;

Whereas British Prime Minister Tony Blair called for elections in Northern Ireland to take place on March 7, 2007, in adherence to the timeline established in the St. Andrews Agreement; and

Whereas the St. Andrews Agreement set a deadline of March 26, 2007, for devolved government to be restored to Northern Ireland: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That—

2 (1) the House of Representatives—

3 (A) reiterates its support for the Good Fri-

4 day Agreement, signed on April 10, 1998, in

1 Belfast, as a blueprint for a lasting peace in
2 Northern Ireland;

3 (B) declares its support for the St. An-
4 drews Agreement of October 2006;

5 (C) commends British Prime Minister
6 Tony Blair and Irish Taoiseach Bertie Ahern
7 for their leadership and persistence in seeking
8 a peaceful resolution in Northern Ireland; and

9 (D) commends all parties for abiding by
10 the terms agreed to in the St. Andrews Agree-
11 ment; and

12 (2) it is the sense of the House of Representa-
13 tives that all political parties in Northern Ireland
14 should—

15 (A) agree to share power with all parties
16 according to the democratic mandate of the
17 Good Friday Agreement;

18 (B) meet all deadlines established by the
19 St. Andrews Agreement; and

20 (C) commit to work in good faith with all
21 the institutions of the Good Friday Agreement,
22 which established the Northern Ireland Assem-
23 bly and an inclusive Executive, the North-South
24 Ministerial Council, and the British-Irish Inter-

- 1 Governmental Conference, for the benefit of all
- 2 the people of Northern Ireland.

